# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

In re

TOP LINE GRANITE DESIGN, INC., Debtor Chapter 7 Case No. 22-40216-EDK

### TRUSTEE'S APPLICATION TO EMPLOY ACCOUNTANT

NOW COMES Steven Weiss, Trustee, through his counsel, and hereby seeks authority to employ Wesler & Associates (the "Accountants") as accountant for the Trustee and the estate, to prepare returns related to "ERC" credits, file tax returns for the estate, and to provide accounting services. In support thereof, the Trustee respectfully states as follows:

- 1. On March 25, 2022 Top Line Granite Design, Inc. (the "Debtor") filed a petition for relief under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code with this Court.
  - 2. Steven Weiss was appointed as Subchapter V trustee.
- 3. On April 28, 2023 this Court entered an order removing the Debtor as debtor-in-possession, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1183(b)(5).
- 4. On June 29, 2023 the case was converted to Chapter 7, and the Trustee was appointed as Chapter 7 Trustee in this case.
- 5. The matters set forth herein constitute core proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A).

- 6. The Trustee will need the services of an accountant for a number of reasons. First, the Trustee believes that the Debtor may be entitled to significant rebates under the Economic Recovery Act (the "ERC's"). This requires the filing of various returns with the Internal Revenue Service. Second, the Debtor operated in Chapter 11 for over a year, and tax returns will need to be filed for those periods. Third, the Trustee is in the process of selling assets of the Debtor. As a result, it will be necessary to file state and federal income tax returns for the Debtor and the bankruptcy estate.
- 7. The Trustee wishes to employ Wesler & Associates to review the financial matters concerning the estate's tax benefits and liabilities, and to prepare all necessary tax returns on behalf of the Debtor and the bankruptcy estate.
- 8. The Trustee believes that the Accountants, located in Kalamazoo, Michigan, are experienced in the preparation of tax returns of the type necessary to be prepared in this matter, particularly the pursuit of the ERC's. The current hourly rates charged by the firm are as follows: Cheryl Wesler, \$295.00; Kristin Lytle, \$225.00; and support staff, \$150.00.
- 9. The firm does not represent or hold any interest adverse to the Debtor or to the estate. An affidavit concerning the Accountants' lack of any interest in the case is submitted herewith.
- 10. The Trustee believes that the Accountants' services are necessary to administer the estate and recover the ERC's and that to the extent that any secured creditor has a perfected lien on such recoveries, the fees and expenses necessary to recover these credits is compensable from the proceeds pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(c).

## WHEREFORE, the Trustee respectfully prays:

- 1. That he be authorized to employ Wesler & Associates, as accountants to the Chapter 7 estate to provide services required by the Trustee; and
  - 2. For such further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 10th day of July, 2023.

STEVEN WEISS, TRUSTEE

By: /s/ Steven Weiss, Trustee
Steven Weiss, Esquire
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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

In re
TOP LINE GRANITE DESIGN, INC.,
Debtor

Chapter 7 Case No. 22-40216-EDK

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF ACCOUNTANT**

NOW COMES Cheryl Wesler and respectfully states the following under oath:

- 1. The undersigned is President of Wesler & Associates, with an address at P.O. Box 19016, Kalmazoo, MI 49019.
- 2. Neither I nor any member of my firm holds or represents any interest adverse to the estate of the abovenamed Debtor.
- 3. My and my firm's connections with the Debtor, any creditor, or other party in interest, their respective attorneys and accounts as follows: None.
- 4. I and each member of my firm is a "disinterested person" as that term is defined in 11 U.S.C. §101(14).
- 5. I have not agreed to share with any person except members of my firm the compensation to be paid for services rendered in this case except as follows: **None**.
- 6. I have received a retainer in this case in the amount of \$ **None**, which sum, on information and belief, was generated by the Debtor from: N/A.

- 7. I shall amend this statement immediately upon my learning that (A) any of the within representations are incorrect or (B) there is any change of circumstances relating thereto.
  - 8. I have reviewed the provisions of M.L.B.R. 20161.

Dated this 2th day of July, 2023.

Cheryl Wesler, C.P.A.

On this <u>1</u> day of July, 2023 before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared Cheryl Wesler, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, namely the person was known to me, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document and acknowledged to me that such person signed it voluntarily as such person's free act and deed for its stated purpose.

(sign and stamp)

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

In re

Chapter 7 Case No. 22-40216-EDK

TOP LINE GRANITE DESIGN, INC, Debtor

#### **DECLARATION ELECTRONIC FILING**

#### PART I - DECLARATION OF PETITIONER

I Cheryl Wesler, C.P.A., hereby declare(s) under penalty of perjury that all of the information contained in the **AFFIDAVIT OF ACCOUNTANT** (singly or jointly the "Document"), filed electronically, is true and correct. I understand that this *DECLARATION* is to be filed with the Clerk of Court electronically concurrently with the electronic filing of the Document. I understand that failure to file this *DECLARATION* may cause the Document to be struck and any request contained or relying thereon to be denied, without further notice.

I further understand that pursuant to the Massachusetts Electronic Filing Local Rule (MEFLR)-7(a) all paper documents containing original signatures executed under the penalties of perjury and filed electronically with the Court are the property of the bankruptcy estate and shall be maintained by the authorized CM/ECF Registered User for a period of five (5) years after the closing of this case.

Dated: July <u>7</u>, 2023

Signed:

Chefyl Wesler (Affiant)

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# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

In re: TOP LINE GRANITE DESIGN INC.,	Chapter 7 Case No. 22-40216 (EDK)
Debtor.	

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Steven Weiss, Trustee, hereby certify that, as of the date hereof, I have caused a copy of the **Application to Employ Accountant** to be served by E-mail, and by electronic notification (EN), as indicated, upon the interested parties listed below, and any other parties receiving electronic notification in this case.

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